

DELIVERY.
Kauwila, Kauhane, Philip, Dole, Rowell, Noes, 20, assistant to get news for to have anyone bear-row.
At 12.15 p.m. the similar to one's own and reading one's letters.
1:30 p.m. at such cases frequently occur, and the question is, where does the blame lie? We have frequently adverted to the necessity in this city of a local delivery by letter-carriers; and although it may seem impracticable just now to carry out a good postal service efficiently in this "city of magnificent distances," still the establishment of a local delivery would only be carrying out the ideas of our able and efficient Postmaster-General, and would, at the same time, confer a boon on the public by the avoidance of mistakes.

Letter-boxes are undoubtedly a convenience, but sometimes lead to serious mistakes. The latest instance which has been brought to our notice is that of two letters received last month addressed to one Mr. Holdsworth. One was addressed to 82, King street, and the other to P. O. Box 282; but, notwithstanding these explicit addresses on the envelopes, the letters were inadvertently put in the box of Theo. H. Davies & Co., in whose employ there is a gentleman by the name of Holdsworth. Unfortunately the mistake assumed a still graver aspect. The "Holdsworth" who opened both letters is said not only to have read them, but to have divulged their contents to a third party, by which means the "Holdsworth" for whom they were intended first became cognizant of the fact that there were any letters here directed to and intended for him. It is not our wish or intention to impute to the gentlemen who opened the letters any desire to do wilful wrong, but to point out that such a painful mistake might have been, and would have been, avoided had the letters been delivered at the respective addresses.

PLUGS.

With its usual acerbity and unkindness, the *Hawaiian* says that in the recent conflagrations there was considerable difficulty "in getting at the fire-plugs." Now we have no horses in the Fire Department; and if we had it would be an unkind insult to call them fire-plugs. The engines are all hauled by men and ropes, and yet our usually intelligent contemporary talks about burying "the plugs underground." We confess to feeling mixed, for our usually meteorically-brilliant neighbor mixes up the item about the "plugs" with the assertion that the Minister of the Interior is striving to get a coat of whitewash for himself and his confederates for the past. These are verily the words of a Chesterfield, and we bow reverently in admiration of them. They are ideas that could only have emanated from a great mind—a cerebrum sepulchred years ago, and consigned to vermicular demolition.

The *Hawaiian* last Thursday demands that Messrs. Baker and Lilikalani enlighten the public as to what they mean by "any case requiring a recourse to arms." Ah, my brethren, when we talk about arms in these islands, let us not have reference to those nasty cold rifles and bayonets. Rather, my beloved Christian friends, to twining soft, dimpled arms, arms with a gentle loving grip in them, that nice modest squeeze which reconciles the weary exile in this vale of tears, to his pilgrimage toward the new Jerusalem. These are the arms to have recourse to, and if any reverend gentleman would like to take a vacation on the other islands, and loan us his pulpit for a few weeks, we should like to preach a series of sermons on this same text. Or, if that worthy citizen, Mr. P. C. Jones, who unfortunately is not on our subscription list, but reads the *ADVERTISER* on the bulletin board every day at the imminent risk of catching cold, would bring the matter before the Y. M. C. A., in the hall of that excellent organization would do quite as well as any church.

The *Bulletin* published last Friday an excellent recipe for biliousness; "In the morning, on rising, take the juice of one lemon in a goblet of water. This will clear the system of humor and bile with efficiency." The *Bulletin's* system is pretty clear of humor, but it would take a whole lemon grove to work its bile.

AMONG the current social gossip it may be mentioned that the mature, but well-preserved *Gazette* will shortly lead to the hymenial altar our blushing and coquettish young evening contemporary the *Hawaiian*. On the same day, and at the same hour, the venerable and ascetic *Saturday Press* will take to its bosom the giddy little *Bulletin*. We do not wish to arouse the green-eyed monster in the heart of the *Press*; but we know that the *Bulletin* is a sad flirt, and will require lots of watching. The angels will look down with joy on those nuptials, and the friends of the virtuous quartette will flock to the wedding breakfast laden with gifts. We have been promised a list of the wedding presents, which we will publish anon, free of charge.

WHEN the law-makers depart for their respective homes, and all the smoke of battle has disappeared, what will the Opposition journals have to write about? There must be an end to political discussion, though the Cabinet will always serve as a target for platoon firing. Still they cannot expect to hammer away every day at the same old topic, and consequently something else must suffer. We suggest theology. There is no limit to the articles that may be written on theology. When we consider that about fifty thousand ministers select a topic from it every Sunday in the year, and about as many more religious journals fill their columns with dissertations on the same, surely there must be room for a few Honolulu papers to get in.

THE stupidity of the papers in trying to throw the odium of the Bank Charter bill on the Government was brought to a climax last week by the *Gazette*. It persisted in it will amount to a malicious perversion of the truth, of which we are sure none of our contemporaries would be guilty of. They ought all to go to an experience meeting and acknowledge tearfully that every time they have tried to mislead the public by fathering the Government with the responsibility of the Bank Charter, they knew that it was introduced by the Hon. Cecil Brown, an active member of the Opposition, who voted for it whilst the Government members all helped to kill it.

It looks very much as if Dana, Butler and John Kelly are in cahoots to defeat Cleveland. The attitude of Butler in the canvass is a serious menace to Cleveland, and, in the opinion of well-posted politicians, will work his defeat. It is a worse blow to Cleveland than all the scandals that have been raised about him. Butler will poll a large popular vote, a great portion of which will be drawn from the Democratic party. It looks very much as if the New York man's goose is already cooked, and that Blaine will have a walk-over. If matters go as they now promise to all the Presidential campaign will be the tamest in the history of the country.

THE *Gazette*, whose approaching nuptials with the *Hawaiian*, we announced last week, shows in its last issue that nervousness we must expect from those about to enter the holy state. We understand that the *Hawaiian* has engaged the services of a Chinese barber to grease up her queue, and the *Gazette* indulges in a dose of Hall's pulmonary balsam every morning to tone up for the occasion. The marriage service will take place at the Chinese Church on Fort street. Anybody who has the gall to forbid the bans had better speak up now or be for ever silent.

THEY have queer receipts over in Ireland for preventing riots, but the queerest yet offered is that given by Lord Rossmore, the Orange leader. He has written to the English Government declaring that the Nationalist meeting announced for Sunday at Monaghan must be proclaimed "to avoid strife and possible bloodshed." The humor of this demand lies in the fact that, as Lord Rossmore himself is to furnish "the strife and bloodshed," it has not occurred to him that the difficulty might be prevented by proclaiming him and his riotous followers, instead of the Nationalists.

SINCE writing the above notice of the nuptials, we have been creditably informed that the match is off. The *Hawaiian* turned up her nose at the

Gazette on account of his extreme age, and will have nothing more to do with that hoary old journal. The *Bulletin*, however, is making the most of its remaining days of freedom, and is coquetting at an awful gait with the members of the Opposition. That the sort of an algeroba she is, and if the senile, tract-spouting *Press* does not want to be badly fooled, he will keep her under lock and key.

ONE of the most learned of the Judiciary gave us a Latin conundrum last week, which stopped the press, and for which he will be duly prosecuted. It would take four columns to explain its many beauties, and we are under bonds not to divulge its mysteries. The sentence reads: *Mitto tibi navem prora puppique carentem*, or, "I send you a ship minus its prow and bows." It is needless to say that this is not a gratuitous insult to the two millions appropriated by the Assembly, which we have not got.

A LETTER lately received from a former resident of Honolulu, now residing in Panama, contains the following reference to this much-talked-of enterprise:

"No matter what you may read in the papers about the wonderful progress of the Panama Canal, take my word for it, it is all bosh. They are squandering their capital in a most extravagant manner. There is really not a foot of the Canal yet finished, and, in my opinion, the company will find the end of their stockholders' purses in another year."

THE *Bulletin* got on its hind legs last Thursday and asked, "Wherefore should we not discuss the King?" Now, there are discussions and discussions, and the *Bulletin's* sample of discussions is what we most strenuously object to. The vilest slanders of His Majesty have appeared in the columns of that journal, slanders not of a political character at all. In no other government under the sun would such a breach of journalistic decency be allowed to go unpunished.

HON. W. O. SMITH claims that the *ADVERTISER* was in error last Thursday in stating that his remarks upon His Majesty were of an abusive character. Mr. Smith says he but said that the King was not born to the throne, but elected by the people. We willingly give Mr. Smith the benefit of the explanation. The *ADVERTISER* aims only at fairness and disclaims all prejudice either personal or political.

CONSIDERING the large number of Republicans who are opposed to Blaine, and consequently favorable to Cleveland, and the even greater number of Democrats who are opposed to Cleveland and prefer Blaine, it is surprising that the Republicans did not nominate Cleveland in the first place, and leave the Democrats to do a similar favor for the gentleman from Maine.

THE Library Association is hard at work moving the books from the old building into the new one. The change promises to be a most grateful one to everyone who looks on reading as rest and recreation. Honolulu has needed this institution for a long time. We hope everyone will join it as a luxury. A large number of books are promised to be donated.

DEATH OF THE REV. J. P. ALEXANDER.

By the steamship *Atameda*, we have received news of the death, on the 12th inst., in Oakland, Cal., at the residence of his son, Mr. S. T. Alexander, of Rev. J. P. Alexander, for fifty-three years a missionary on these Islands.

Rev. Mr. Alexander was born in Paris, Kentucky, in 1805, and was therefore in his 80th year at the time of his death. He left the United States in April of 1831 with his wife, and in the company of the Rev'ds. B. W. Parker and R. Armstrong, and arrived here early in 1832, bound for the Marquesas Islands.

They left for the Marquesas Islands and remained there six months. The mission was then abandoned, and the party returned to these Islands and commenced their labors amongst these people. The subject of our sketch was first located at Hanalei, Kauai, removing from thence to Lahainaluna, Maui. There his health became seriously impaired, and he went to Ulupalakua, and en-

gaged in surveying and other outdoor occupations, until his health being re-established, he resumed his special missionary work at Wailuku, Maui, where he remained until about a year ago, when he and his wife accompanied their son, Mr. S. T. Alexander, to his home in Oakland, Cal., where the long, useful, peaceful life on earth of this veteran missionary ended on the 13th inst.

The deceased leaves behind him the gentle companion of more than half a century of wedded life, and a large family, all of whom are or have been until within a very recent period, residents on these Islands. With the exception of the eldest son, the present Surveyor-General of the kingdom, all the children—nine in all—were born in this kingdom, and they and their children, and a large family circle will long mourn the loss of a kind and affectionate father and friend. The people of these Islands will sympathize with the bereaved ones, and the nation at large will have cause to regret the loss of a faithful pastor, a wise teacher, a true Christian in all the walks of life.

VARIGNY'S "FOURTEEN YEARS IN THE SANDWICH ISLANDS."

[CONTINUED.]

"The King's journey was favorably accomplished. He made the tour in turn of the islands of Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii, where he received a most warm reception. Wherever he went he took up the task of making his intentions known, to state the facts of the matter, and to enlighten his subjects as to their individual interests. Unfortunately our colleague, Mr. Wyllie, carried away by his feelings, and exasperated by the slanders of the Opposition journals, often spoilt by his furious speeches the good effect of what the King had said, and furnished to his adversaries, and so to our adversaries also, arms of which they knew how to make good use. Rendered impatient by the pompous eulogy of the Constitution of 1852, in which the enemies of the Ministry indulged, Mr. Wyllie often forgot himself in the vivacity of his replies, and falling into the snare that was laid for him, loudly displayed his little respect for what, defective though it might be, was still the supreme law of the Kingdom. Certain phases of his speeches, carefully gathered together, put in juxtaposition and commented on by the Opposition journals, gave them a great advantage, and complicated our task by giving us the appearance of being violent at least in intention.

"The result of the King's tour was, therefore, only half-satisfactory, and the elections of June 13th yielded a majority decidedly hostile to the project and method of revision. Among twenty-seven representatives, seventeen belonged more or less to the American party. Among this number there were, nevertheless, some whom we hoped to convince and bring over to our side. Ten would, to a certain extent, go with us. The Chamber of Nobles was on the contrary, with two exceptions, in favor of the plan we had adopted. We had arranged to submit the following preliminary propositions to the Convention: 'That the right to offer amendments should belong to each member; that each order should vote separately upon each amendment; no amendment should be accepted unless it should receive the sanction of each order in its turn.' There could be no doubt that these propositions were not of a nature to be adopted, but the systematic opposition of the delegates might hamper from the outset the action of the Convention; it was on this opposition that the chiefs of the party of resistance counted.

"The Convention was opened with all solemnity. The king, accompanied by his staff, his ministers, his father, and his sister, presided in person. In a speech prepared in Cabinet Council, he briefly indicated the reasons which had determined him to take this important step, and the defective points in the Constitution of 1852. His remarks were terminated as follows: 'The number and importance of the changes to be made have induced me to call this convention, in which the people, being represented by you, gentlemen, their freely elected delegates, you my Nobles, sitting for yourselves, and I for myself, all the Constituting Powers of this Realm, are concentrated. I hope

that every Noble and delegate will exercise freely the right of suggesting any provision on which he may have maturely reflected, with the assurance that such suggestions will be listened to on my part with the same consideration which I expect for my own. At the same time I shall claim for myself, or others speaking by my authority, in my name, and in my presence, the same right of debate that I freely accord to each Noble and delegate.'

"Those to whom the King had confided this arduous task were the Attorney-General and myself, both quite lately entered upon office. He counted on our calmness and our coolness, qualities which were wholly wanting in Mr. Wyllie, to sustain the debates, and on our perseverance as the means of triumphing over obstacles.

"From the beginning of the session the attitude of the Opposition was clearly shown. They consented to revise the Constitution, but they denied to the convention any constituent power, only recognizing it as competent to make recommendations to the Legislature at its approaching session as to the adoption of this or that amendment.

"It was in connection with a matter of secondary importance that this question was raised. A committee had been appointed to prepare and present to the Assembly a set of standing orders. The 15th section of the draft was thus worded: 'The three orders shall vote separately on the question as to whether they will or will not recommend the adoption of each amendment. The delegates shall vote first, if their vote is in the negative the amendment shall be considered as rejected. If their vote is in the affirmative the Nobles shall vote, and if the majority of the Nobles approve, the King shall be respectfully invited to make his decision known.'

"After this clause had been read the King begged the committee to be so good as to explain what was intended by the words 'will or will not recommend.'

"Mr. Dowsett (one of the members of the committee)—'We mean by that the action of approving or disapproving.'

"The King—'But to whom do you purpose to address this recommendation.'

"Mr. Dowsett—'Many of us are of opinion that our powers do not go beyond a simple recommendation to the Legislative Assembly.'

"The King—'I do not recognize any other assembly than this convention as having the right to decide, to approve or reject the amendments. The convention alone is sovereign.'

"The question was clearly raised, and the conflict defunct. If the theory of the committee should prevail, and if the convention had no other power than to make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly, the work of revision would remain indefinitely suspended, the King must either take the oath to the Constitution of 1852, or abdicate the power which he could not legally exercise.

Mr. Gulick, a young protestant minister, one of the leaders of the Opposition, felt that the moment had come for a bold attack. In an impassioned but able speech he exposed the views of his party, and concluded with the following motion:

"That this convention, by the conditions of the royal proclamation, and by express or implied instructions of the people, has no legislative authority, and whatever action it is pleased to take conjointly or separately, is understood to be simply advisory, and that the approaching Legislature or Legislatures, who are the only lawfully constituted medium acting for the people to amend the Constitution, may approve or reject such advice as in their wisdom they may see fit."

A Shark Caught.

Last Wednesday the first crew of the Honolulu Boat Club, commanded by Mr. C. B. Wilson, while out rowing in the vicinity of the spar buoy, were attacked by an immense shark. The ferocious monster thrust its colossal muzzle over the gunwale of the boat, and had seized the forward thwart with its teeth, when Mr. Wilson, with remarkable presence of mind, launched a harpoon into his gigantic body. After a desperate struggle between the boat and the shark, and Messrs. Wodehouse and Wilson, the shark gave up the ghost, and his captors towed him triumphantly to Brewer's wharf, where he was the object of admiration until the shades of night obliterated him.